

MEXICO FEARS TO MAKE DEFEAT AMERICA'S LUMBER KING DIES FEDERALS LOSE 1,500 IN TORREON HOSPITAL AT JUAREZ TRACK FOR THE TORREON WOUNDED

MEXICANS FIGHT LIKE BALL GAME

After Taking Trenches, When Federals Refuse to Surrender, They Retire to Try It Over Again, but Are Repulsed—The Dead Are Being Burned in the Streets of Torreon—Woman Heroine Is Among Wounded—Villa Captures Much Federal Ammunition.

BY J. V. STODDARD, NEW YORK SUN CORRESPONDENT.

TORREON, Mexico, April 4.—While the battle of Torreon was gruesome and appalling, the jokes of war were not absent. The American soldiers with Villa's command are responsible for its relation.

All these Americans, most of them machine gun and artillery operators, came through the battle without a wound. The Americans, acting as infantry, were with the column of rebels that captured Calles hill from the federals on Monday. After the capture of the hill, a truce was called and then the federal commander refused to surrender. The joke of the fight was the retirement of the rebel soldiers at the end of the truce, to a point down the side of the hill and the resumption of the battle for its possession.

The Americans report that while they held the hill, the heat of the fighting was apparent between the federal defenders and the rebels, and the soldiers of the two armies traded cigars and trinkets in the heat of humor. It was then believed that the federals would surrender the fortifications, but when word came from the federal commander that the surrender should not be made, the federals squared off for the fight and the rebel officer took his men back a distance of two hundred yards and resumed the shooting. The federals then succeeded in driving the rebel troops back down the mountain side.

On Wednesday, the rebels succeeded in reaching the crest of the hill for the second time, when another armistice was declared and the federals, after reading word to their commander, were notified not to surrender. Again the rebels retired and 19 federals accompanied them.

The federal fortifications upon the mountain side were merely of thin stone, incapable of resisting artillery fire. After the retreat, the trenches were found to be full of long dead federal soldiers.

Rebels Capture Ammunition.
Though the federals attempted to burn all their ammunition when they quit the city, they were unsuccessful. Several hundred rounds of cannon ammunition and a large quantity of rifle cartridges were found undestroyed in the basement of a club house. It was in extraordinary fusion. Broken shells, fulminating caps and hand grenades were scattered over the floor. Some 2000 used shells were also piled here.

The fire for destroying the shells was built in the streets, close to the chamber of commerce, and nearby most of the federal wounded were found when the rebels entered.

All Generals Killed?
All generals of the federals except Velasco, the commander, are said to have been killed or wounded. To this is attributed the evacuation of the rebels to the steady advance of the rebels, who had reached almost all parts of the city in night attacks before the federals finally decamped.

The rebels are burning the dead in the streets. Many dead were found in the hospital with the wounded. These were immediately removed and burned. Great piles of wood, saturated with kerosene, are placed over the dead bodies and the match is then applied. The odor of the burning flesh is sickening, but it appears to be the only way to prevent a plague. The city is extremely quiet and orderly.

Federals Lose 2000.
The federal defenders of Torreon lost 2000 in killed and wounded, according to the best obtainable figures from people in the city. The federal garrison did not at any time number more than 7000 soldiers.

When Pancho Villa made his entry into Torreon Friday morning, the people seemed glad to welcome him, glad that the terrible battle was over.

The federals, when they retreated from the city, took all the wounded with them that they could possibly move. Many were almost carried by their comrades. The retreat really began early Thursday morning, but the federals covered it with artillery fire and the rebels were unaware that the federal column was escaping.

City Not Badly Damaged.
The artillery fire, on close examination, appears to have done less damage to the city than was expected, although many buildings have great holes in their walls as testimonials to the rebel and federal marksmanship. That the fighting was of a very close character at many times during the rebel attack is demonstrated by the bullet marks, and the piles of dead which show that the rebels got within 100 yards of the federal headquarters.

There were few bodies in the streets when the rebels entered the city, but many in the buildings, as most of the fighting was done inside the walls, the rebels in their advance often smashing their way through the walls from building to building.

Woman Heroine of Battle.
The heroine of the battle was Señora Maria Dorotea de la Cruz, who for three days and two nights, alone, without water, light or food, administered to 50 wounded federals. Dr. A. M. Carr, an American physician, was found among the federal wounded, giving surgical attention when the rebels entered the city. He was congratulated on his work by many of the rebel officials.

The conditions in the improvised hospital of the federals were horrible. British vice consul Cunard-Cummins made a plea to Gen. Villa on his arrival in Torreon for proper treatment of the federal wounded and promised that they should have care and that their lives would be saved when they recovered. The attitude upon the faces of the wounded federals was pitiful. They were informed that the custom of dispatching the

wounded was not to be observed. Before this, many had crawled away to hide. As news travels rapidly by various and devious ways, the intelligence that they were to be spared, soon reached those in hiding and men with pitiable wounds crawled out of their concealment and offered themselves for surgical attention.

Foreigners Safe; U. S. Flag Insulted.
All foreigners in Torreon are safe, according to the report of British vice consul Cunard-Cummins and American consular agent Ulmer, with the exception of two Spaniards, killed by the federals.

The American flag, which was hung out by many American business houses and residences, was frequently desecrated by the federals defending the city, according to reports to the consular agent.

Villa lost no time in sending a column in pursuit of the retreating federals when he discovered that they had left the city, and it is officially reported that this column overtook the federals and succeeded in killing and capturing many. The retreating column is reported as abandoning its baggage and commissary in a better effort to elude the rebels.

JAPANESE INVADE U. S. PEACEFULLY

Sixty-five Cross From Juarez and Are Sent to Lower California to Work in the Cotton Fields.

A Japanese invasion occurred Friday afternoon when 65 Nipponese crossed the international bridge from Mexico, were loaded in a couple of bullfighter cars on the S. P. and sent to lower California, where they will work in the cotton fields below the Mexican line.

The Japanese had been employed in the mining and lumber camps of northern Mexico and were thrown out of work when these industries closed. They were called to Juarez by consul clerk S. Baba, from the Chicago consulate. Special permission was given the Japanese to cross the United States in transit to lower California, the bond being waived by supervising inspector F. W. Berkshire, who sent immigration inspector W. M. Johnson with the party to see that all arrived in Mexican California.

VILLA'S MONEY UP AND IN DEMAND NOW

Villa's rebel money has jumped to 21 cents from 15 cents and there is a brisk demand for the genuine "Constitutionalist" money among the business men who have dealings with the custom house in Juarez. Carranza's Mondoleva money is quoted at 24 cents in Sonora and the Mexican federal currency is being bought at 30 cents locally. Mexican silver pesos are selling for 43 cents, a drop of four cents.

BLANQUET DENIES FALL OF TORREON

A message was received at the Mexican consulate in El Paso Saturday morning from the minister of war Blanquet, dated Friday, at 11:28 p. m., which read: "You can strongly deny the story that Villa sent to Carranza of the taking of Torreon by the rebels. This is my answer to your code message. (Signed) A. Blanquet."

MAAS LAST HEARD OF AT HIPOLITO

Laredo, Tex., April 4.—According to a dispatch made public here by Mexican consul Bravo, Gen. Joaquin Maas with his federal reinforcements was at Hipolito, 200 miles east of Torreon, late Thursday night. The dispatch said Maas was headed for Torreon. Nothing has since been heard from his command.

ALLEGED PLOT UNCOVERED TO KILL REBEL OFFICIALS

Tucson, Ariz., April 4.—Rebel special agents in Nogales Thursday uncovered an alleged plot to assassinate E. V. Anaya, of Tucson, rebel agent at Nogales, Ariz., Francisco Fontes, chief of arms in Nogales, Sonora, and collector of customs Corrella, also of Nogales, Sonora.

Anaya, Fontes and Corrella and members of their families came to Tucson in automobiles to attend the circus. Before leaving Tucson on the return trip a telephone message was received from Nogales that members of the federal junta in Nogales would ambush the party on the road and kill the men. The message stated that the names of the men involved in the plot were known and that every means would be taken by Santa Cruz county officials to frustrate it.

When the rebel party left Tucson all its members were heavily armed. Jim Mercer, deputy sheriff of Pima county, and Joe Escobedo, a relative of Anaya, also went along. There was no attempt to attack anywhere on the road. All reached Nogales safely.

CATTELMEN MAY URGE REBEL RECOGNITION

Cattlemen are considering a petition to Washington urging recognition of the "Constitutionalists" since the Villa forces have captured Torreon. A conference with Carranza is being arranged and the cattlemen who have large interests in northern Mexico, which is held by the rebels, are anxious in order that they may be given protection. George Curry is heading the movement and is having a series of conferences with revolutionists and cattlemen regarding the petition.

A MILITARY hospital, with a capacity for 500 patients, was established at the Juarez race track Saturday. The hospital was fitted up on short notice, a large force of men being employed Saturday morning cleaning up the buildings at the track and installing cots and other equipment for the reception of 300 wounded rebel soldiers en route to Juarez from Torreon.

Special trains carrying the wounded were expected to arrive about 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The establishment of the hospital at Juarez proceeded under the direction of Dr. I. J. Bush, of El Paso, who will be assisted by a corps of surgeons and nurses in ministering to the wounded soldiers.

The hospital is the third of three military hospitals maintained by the "Constitutionalists," the others being at Chihuahua and Jimenez. A temporary, or receiving hospital, is located at Torreon.

Neither the Red Cross nor the White Cross have anything to do with these hospitals, the "Constitutionalists" having entire control and bearing all expenses incident to their operation.

It was decided to establish a hospital at Juarez because of its proximity to the border where expert surgical and medical assistance could be secured.

LUMBER KING OF U. S. DIES ESTATE HUGE

Multimillionaire Weyerhaeuser Succumbs Suddenly When Thought Better.

LIST OF PROPERTY IS VAST IN EXTENT

PASADENA, Calif., April 4.—Fredrick W. Weyerhaeuser, the multimillionaire Minnesota lumberman, died at his winter home at Oak Knoll, aged 78. Mr. Weyerhaeuser was stricken ten days ago with a severe cold. Threatening symptoms developed and several times he sank to the verge of death, but rallied and appeared Friday to be all but recovered.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser's fame dated from January, 1907, when a magazine writer in describing him hit upon the phrase "richer than Rockefeller." Mr. Weyerhaeuser denied he had more money than the oil magnate.

"I have enough to pay my debts, with sufficient left over to keep my family and myself comfortable the rest of our days," he said.

Held 32,000,000 Acres, Is Claim.

But the truth of the statement is still in doubt. It has been said that in 1907 he held 32,000,000 acres of timbered land. Most great fortunes are largely in stocks and bonds, the value of which is always approximately known to the owner. Mr. Weyerhaeuser himself did not know what his timber was worth. He was certainly the richest lumberman in the world. He held the lumber situation of the whole United States in the hollow of his hand.

Was Manual Laborer First.

The future forest lord was born at Neidersauheim, southern Germany, November 21, 1834, and worked until 18 years old in his father's vineyard, when he emigrated with his mother and sisters. They stayed four years in Erie, Pa. Here young Weyerhaeuser worked in a brewery. He was by reputation honest, thrifty and industrious. Leaving Erie for Rock Island, Ill., he started work in a saw mill and there met a fellow employee of like character, F. C. A. Denckman. They married sisters.

Within six months Mr. Weyerhaeuser was manager of the saw mill. Then he and Mr. Denckman bought the mill. A little later Mr. Weyerhaeuser went to Wisconsin and came back filled with enthusiasm for the northern forests. The two partners saved every penny and in 1864 bought a large tract of Chippewa land for a song. This was the beginning of their large operations. They bought and bought. Then Mr. Weyerhaeuser began to show a genius for combination. He became known as the man of a thousand partners.

List of Holdings Almost Endless.

The list of his lumber companies is almost endless. But he once remarked that he never lost a dollar in a lumber deal or entered any other kind of a deal without losing. In later years he owned much bank stock, however.

He gave endowments to McAlister college and other institutions. He was a supporter of scientific forestry and endowed a chair at the Yale Forestry school.

Guarded Speech Closely.

By nature he was taciturn and reticent, almost secretive. He once said, "I have two eyes and two ears, but only one mouth, and that is to eat with."

In 1857, while still a poor man, he married Miss Sarah Elizabeth Bloedel, who came from the same village in Germany as her husband. She died recently. There are three daughters and four sons, the latter the most powerful figures in the lumber industry of today.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser had spent his old age mostly on his beautiful estate at Pasadena, Calif.

ALASKAN GOVERNOR ARRIVES IN SEATTLE, VISITING STATES

Seattle, Wash., April 4.—Governor J. F. A. Strong, of Alaska, arrived from Juneau by steamer today. From Seattle Governor Strong will go to Tacoma to take part in an Alaska railroad celebration. Then he will go to Denver to attend the conference of western governors, April 7, and finally to Washington to confer with president Wilson at the latter's request, he said.

Rockefeller's Smash "Musical" Prize for the

Rome, Italy, Apr. 4.—A musical circle here that is of an annual \$4000 prize for opera by a youthful composer. Mrs. Harold McCormick, of smash the so-called "musical" Two music publishing houses tically controlled the musical



MRS. HAROLD MCCORMICK.

for years and young composers as well as aspiring singers have been held up for large sums if they wished to receive a hearing. Rockefeller, daughter of John D. Rockefeller, became interested last year, while visiting Parma as the guest of Chaifetz Campanini, conductor of the Philadelphia Chicago Opera company, on the occasion of the Verdi centennial celebration.